

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Ser No. 10/773,935

July 5, 2006

REMARKS

Support for the Amendments to the Instant Claims

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended in line 2 to recite more clearly that both the modified polypropylene (MPP) and the modified propylene- α -olefin copolymer (MPP copolymer) already contain the functional groups recited in the respective claims. Support for this amendment to claim 1 may be found, for example, in the instant specification at page 2, lines 23-24, page 5, lines 16-25 and page 6, lines 10-34.

Claim 1 has further been amended at the end of line 5 to better define the MPP copolymer compositions of the instant invention for use on temperature sensitive substrates. Support for this amendment to claim 1 may be found, for example, in the instant specification at page 5, lines 28-34. In addition, Claim 1 has been amended to better define the MPP (homopolymer) compositions of the instant invention. Support for this amendment to claim 1 may be found, for example, in the instant specification at page 7, lines 1-12.

Claim 5 has been amended at its final line to more clearly define the inventive adducts of the present invention. Support for the amendment to claim 5 may be found, for example, in the instant specification at page 7, line 13 to page 9, line 20. In keeping with proper practice, the species grouping is written entirely in the additive and not in the alternative.

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-10 will stand pending in the instant application. No new matter has been added by the present amendment.

Rejections Under 35 USC §112

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The instant specification clearly describes the instant isotactic polypropylene (co)polymers, which are modified to contain the groups recited, including residual unsaturation terminal groups. Extensive guidance lays out

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how an isotactic propylene polymer is modified to make the MPP (co)polymers instantly recited. See the instant specification at, for example, page 4, lines 22-25 and at page 5, lines 1-21. Thus, the ordinary skilled artisan would at once see that the instantly recited modified isotactic polypropylenes (MPP) and their copolymers (MPP copolymers) have been so modified to contain carboxyl, anhydride, hydroxyl and epoxy groups. See, for example, the instant specification at page 2, lines 23-24, and the ample description of how a polypropylene is modified to contain carboxyl, anhydride, hydroxyl and/or epoxy group at, for example, the instant specification at page 5, lines 15-21 and at page 6, lines 10-35. Also described in the above-cited passages at pages 5 and 6 is the fact that, prior to modification, the isotactic polypropylenes can have one or two olefinic terminal groups. Thus, where a polypropylene having two olefinic terminal groups is modified by reaction of one terminus to add a carboxyl, anhydride, hydroxyl or epoxy group thereto, it becomes an MPP or MPP copolymer having one olefinic terminal group.

The molecular weight limitation instantly recited in claim 4 finds written description in the instant specification at, for example, page 6, lines 1-2. The presence of olefinic termini in MPP or MPP copolymers is taught repeatedly in the instant specification, such as at page 4, line 25 and page 5, lines 13-18.

Still further, it is well settled that the instant specification includes the claims which, as originally filed, provide a reasonable written description of everything recited therein.

The rejections are clearly improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The instant claims clearly recite that the MPP (co)polymer of the instant invention contains one or more carboxyl, anhydride, hydroxyl or epoxy group. This is also clearly what applicants teach. See the cited portions of the instant specification referred to in regard to written description, above.

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The instant claim 4 has a clear antecedent basis in instant claim 1, from which it depends, that would readily be clear to the ordinary skilled artisan. The instant claim 1 clearly recites MPP and MPP copolymers having olefinic termini that may be contained therein, as instantly recited, for example, where either or both termini of the unmodified (co)polypropylenes are not reacted to make modified or MPP (co)polymers. Accordingly, the instant claims are reasonably clear and definite.

The rejections are clearly improper and should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-7 and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Rieger et al., DE 4227217, of record. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Rieger et al. fail to disclose the instantly recited modified isotactic polypropylene copolymer (MPP copolymer), as is instantly recited. Further, Rieger et al. fail to disclose the instantly recited modified isotactic polypropylene homopolymer (MPP) composition comprising polyfunctional acrylic monomer, an alkyd, an acrylic modified alkyd, a polyamine, a polyimine, and mixtures and combinations thereof, as is instantly recited.

As Reiger et al. do not disclose each and every feature instantly recited, the instant claims are not anticipated, and the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Hanna et al., US 2004/0059046, of record. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Hanna et al. fail to disclose the instantly recited isotactic MPP copolymer, comprising less than 60%, by weight, of isotactic units, based on the total weight of monomeric units contained in the polymer. Cf. Hanna et al. at paragraph [0037]. Further, Hanna et al. fail to disclose the instantly recited modified isotactic polypropylene homopolymer (MPP) composition comprising

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polyfunctional acrylic monomer, an alkyd, an acrylic modified alkyd, a polyamine, a polyimine, and mixtures and combinations thereof, as is instantly recited. Cf. Hanna at paragraphs [0051], [0051], [0058], [0069], [0074], [0075], [0076], [0079], [0080] and [0083]. Still further, Hanna et al. fail to disclose any of the instantly recited isotactic MPP (co)polymer adduct species blended with resin or polymer, as is instantly recited in instant claim 5. Cf. Hanna at paragraphs [0069] [0081], and [0082].

As Hanna et al. do not disclose each and every feature instantly recited, the instant claims are not anticipated, and the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7 and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Fujita et al., of record. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Fujita et al. fail to disclose, teach or suggest any isotactic propylene copolymer having an isotacticity of less than 60%, by weight, as instantly recited. See Fujita et al. at column 4, line 58 to column 5, line 2. Further, Fujita et al. fail to disclose any isotactic MPP or MPP copolymer adducts, as recited in Claim 5. See Fujita et al. at the Abstract and col. 4., lines 16-23. Still further, Fujita et al. fail to disclose the instantly recited modified isotactic polypropylene homopolymer (MPP) composition comprising polyfunctional acrylic monomer, an alkyd, an acrylic modified alkyd, a polyamine, a polyimine, and mixtures and combinations thereof, as is instantly recited.

As Fujita et al. do not disclose each and every feature instantly recited, the instant claims are not anticipated, and the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

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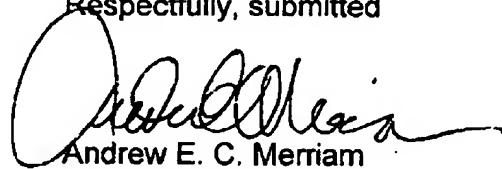
CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the instant claims are believed to be in current condition for allowance. An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited. If the examiner has any questions problems concerning the instant application, (s)he is urged to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Enclosed herewith, Applicants submit a copy of the official translation of Hoechst reference, JP 8-283621A, of record

No fees are believed due. In the event that any fees are found owing, please charge deposit account no. 18-1850.

Respectfully, submitted



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